

STOCK BROKER CONFESSES HOW HE TURNED THIEF

POISON IN BEER ALMOST KILLS HARLEM WOMAN

George H. Brouwer, Confidential Manager, Took Over \$100,000 from Firm.

LOST IN SPECULATION, HUSBAND SAVES HER.

Might Have Taken \$1,000,000 Administrates Antidotes Before Physician Arrives—Police Investigating.

George H. Brouwer, who, as a member of the Stock Exchange in 1899 failed for half a million dollars, and who yesterday was indicted for stealing \$100,000 from James H. Oliphant & Co., stock brokers at No. 20 Broad street, whose business he had managed for years, related to an Evening World reporter to-day the history of his thefts.

Seen in his handsome brownstone residence at No. 635 Washington avenue, Brooklyn, Mr. Brouwer did not seem unduly agitated over his plight. He is an immaculately groomed man of about fifty, looking the part of the prosperous banker or broker. In the course of his dramatic interview his voice did not shake, but rather rose with pride when he told of how his conscience had urged him to confess a \$100,000 theft when the opportunity lay before him to steal a million and cover it up.

Conscience Aroused a Week Ago.

"It was on Thursday, of last week," said Mr. Brouwer, sinking his closely clipped little gray mustache, "that something told me to make a full confession to my family and nearest friend. I was in no danger of being found out then, for I had carefully covered up every transaction.

"My wife had only taken a mouthful," he told Capt. Walsh, "when she turned pale and fell in a faint. I feared that it was an overdose of arsenic from the beer and gave her some white of an egg and other antidotes. She revived quickly and I called a physician. Then I took the remaining portion of the beer to Boris Kohosoff, a chemist at No. 145 Fifth avenue, and he found a big quantity of arsenic in the bottom of the bottle. He said there was enough to kill an army of men. It was almost a quarter of an inch thick."

The beer was bottled at the works of a prominent New York brewery in One hundred and Fifty-sixth street as recently as two weeks ago.

The affair has a decidedly mysterious ring, according to Detectives Summers and O'Connor, who spent all last night and to-day in an effort to learn if the arsenic had been purposely placed in the beer. The officers say they are unable to learn of any enemies of Hirsch who would plan his death.

The concerns who handled the beer before it came into Hirsch's hands and also the firm which bottled the brew will be examined.

Mr. Hirsch will not discuss the case, and his wife could not be seen when a reporter for the Evening World called to-day.

HUNDREDS WEEP AT FUNERAL OF PRIEST

Father McKinnon, Beloved Yorkville Pastor, Is Laid at Rest.

His Grace, Archbishop Farley, dedicated to-day a few pontifical regulations for the repose of the soul of the Rev. Neil Norton McKinnon, S. J., who, during his brief pastoral in the Church of St. Ignatius Loyola, Eighteenth street and Park avenue, endeared himself to everyone with whom he came in contact, regardless of personal creed.

Mr. Roosevelt's campaign against the railroads and trusts had not been popular in the demoralization of the stock market, and the President's attitude I should be a rich man instead of a confessed thief.

"Most of my losses were in copper, smelters, Southern Pacific, and Interstate. It was impossible for me to keep abreast of the decline. The more I struggled to do so the deeper I got into the pit. Yes, I think I can truthfully say that Mr. Roosevelt's anti-trust campaign has ruined me. To-day I am penniless; dead broke; I might say, and I don't mean dead—dead in funds."

"But I believe the three men I lost contact with from (Carrie) Mrs. Oliphant and another member of the firm) are my friends. They shook hands with me after I had made my confession, and as late as yesterday they told me they were my friends. It is possible, however, that even our friends will turn against him when they are made to suffer by his sins."

"This house I live in and all its furnishings are in my wife's name. She will willingly sacrifice everything, however, to help me pay back the money I stole. I am confident that if the opportunity is offered Father McKinnon occupies the chair of moral philosophy for six weeks. The funeral arrangements were under the direction of John J. Rooney.

and is assisting us in getting the accounts straightened out."

Indicted for Small Transaction.

The specific charge against Brouwer, upon whom an indictment for grand larceny was filed in the court of justice, was that he had taken \$100,000. Mr. Oliphant's losses have not been fully estimated. Mr. Oliphant thought that the total of his manager's losses would be between \$100,000 and \$150,000.

"I do not care to discuss in advance what I will do," said the broker, "but I will say that the court proceedings will not be stayed."

Elmer C. Nichols, another member of the firm, said at the Broad street office, that he did not believe the amount would amount to more than \$100,000.

"It is only fair to Mr. Brouwer," said Mr. Mundy, "to say that he has always been one of the most abominable and callous men I have ever met. He is a lovable man. He neither drank nor smoked. He was a home man. We all thought very much of him. The money he took we must lose in speculation. He may have kept some of it for his

Warfield in "A Grand Army Man" to Open Belasco's New Theatre

"The Step-Sister" of Charles Klein Comes to the Garrick Next Week—Edward Peplé's "Silver Girl" Will Be at Wallack's—Arnold Daly and a Japanese Actress to Appear in Short Plays at the Berkeley Theatre—Elsie Janis Arrives with "The Hoyden" at the End of the Week.

Detectives from Headquarters are investigating to-day the mysterious poisoning of Mrs. Rose Hirsch, of No. 5 East One Hundred and Nineteenth street, whose escape from death following the drinking of a glass of beer at her home last night was due only to the speedy administration of home remedies by her husband, a physician.

According to the story told the police by the husband, who is in the diamond business at No. 65 Nassau street, he purchased three bottles of beer from Iraor Krasner, No. 109 Fifth avenue, Thursday night. Two bottles were used at this time, but no ill effects were noticed. Last night Hirsch went to the ice box and brought forth the third bottle.

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Went Over It With Best Friend.

"Then I called upon my best friend, a man who has been my intimate the greater part of my life. I confessed to him and asked his advice. I told him that I intended to go to Mr. Oliphant and make a clean breast of it. And I did. I took the books into my employer and went over my thefts with him, transaction by transaction.

"You see, besides being the manager for Mr. Oliphant, I was carrying a separate account of my own. Jay F. Carlisle, who is a member of the Stock Exchange, was carrying a large account with us, and when my account was squeezed I would transfer some of Mr. Carlisle's holdings from the Oliphant book, or I would carry some of his account from my own books to my employer's account."

He, Too, Blames Roosevelt.

"It was very simple the way I worked it and it might have been seen before detection came. Everything seemed to run against the broker and me, and I was nearly up against it.

Mr. Roosevelt's campaign against the railroads and trusts had not been popular in the demoralization of the stock market, and the President's attitude I should be a rich man instead of a confessed thief.

The Archibishop was accompanied by Monsignor Leveille, McGrath, Moone, and McCarthy, who acted as deacons of honor. In the processional were the parishes of most of the Manhattan parishes and representatives of the various orders—Capuchins, Franciscans, Benedictines, Dominicans, and Jesuits.

Conspicuous among the mourners were the boys of Loyola School and their parents, an institution which he had himself founded with the idea of educating young boys with the best surroundings, for boy.

There was a slight departure from Jesuit custom in the presence of a large number of honorary pallbearers, among whom were ex-Mayor Hugh J. Grant, W. Bourke Croker, ex-Judge Morgan J. O'Brien and ex-McParland. Hundreds wept as the casket was borne to the vault.

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David Braham is to give a song recital in Carnegie Hall tomorrow afternoon. It is two years since this popular American baritone was heard here in public. His programme will be made up of half a dozen selections in memory of Edward Gray. The soloist will be the tenor, Fred Ladd.

David Braham, Sam and Mary, the Concerts of American Girls will be heard in new songs, will re-

main the headliners at the Colonial. The musical comedy "F. D. and F. D." will be presented by George Al as the dog, Burr McIntosh in his illustrated lecture "With Taft in the Philippines." Arthur Dean, Julia Elise, and others will be seen.

Richard C. Hart in "The Spring Chick" will be next week's attraction at the Grand Opera House.

Richard C. Hart will be seen in "The Burgher and the Lady" at the American.

A child actress, Lydia Jeanette, will appear in "A Child Shall Lead Them" at the Fourteenth Street Theatre.

Lydia, who will be seen in "The School of the Poor," will be the girl of the day.

The "Prison of Honour" will be the offering at the Third Avenue Tuesday.

"Around the Clock" will be at the Lyceum. The people will have "A Millionaire's Revenge."

"Child of the Regiment" comes to the Lyceum.

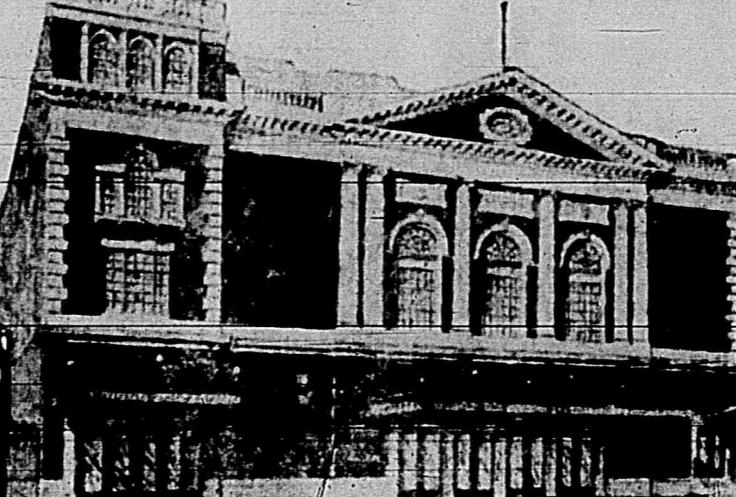
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"Madam Butterfly" to Be Sung At Garden Theatre Next Week

"Robin Hood" at the Lincoln Square Theatre—David Bispham's Recital.

PUCINTI's beautiful Japanese opera, "Madam Butterfly," for which John Luther Long's charming story furnished the libretto and the inspiration, is to be presented again on Monday night at the Garden Theatre by Col. Savage's English Opera Company.

The engagement is for three weeks, with matinees on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Last season Col. Savage gave fifty consecutive performances of the opera in this city before he sent it to London.

The stock company at the Embassy Ball will present "The Embassy Ball" at the end of the week.

PHOEBE STRIKES, a piece of Patti's repertoire, will be the heroine, Cho-Choo-San, on the opening night, with Reina Vivienne, who sang the part last year, and Elsie Wolf, a German interpreter, as alternates. Harriet Behnke and Ethel Houston will portray Suzuki, the Maid, Ear Pinkerton, the American Lieutenant, Vernon Stiles, William St. Willis, Williams' son, and William Mitchell.

Estelle Wentworth, a piece of Patti's repertoire, will be the heroine, Cho-Choo-San, on the opening night, with Reina Vivienne, who sang the part last year, and Elsie Wolf, a German interpreter, as alternates. Harriet Behnke and Ethel Houston will portray Suzuki, the Maid, Ear Pinkerton, the American Lieutenant, Vernon Stiles, William St. Willis, Williams' son, and William Mitchell.

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THEATRES MAY TURN DOWN ALL TICKETS